

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejections of the application are respectfully requested in view of the remarks herewith, which place the application into condition for allowance. The present response is being made to facilitate prosecution of the application.

I. STATUS OF THE CLAIMS AND FORMAL MATTERS

Claims 1-24 are pending. Claims 1, 4, 7, 10, 14, 16, 19, and 22 are independent.

Claims 1-6 and 13-18 are allowed.

III. REJECTIONS UNDER 35 U.S.C. §112

Claims 7-12 and 19-24 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicants regard as the invention. In particular, the Office Action argues that the claims include means-plus-function limitations that are not clearly linked to a particular structure disclosed in the specification. **Applicants respectfully disagree.**

Notably, the 'data-sequence reproducing unit' is disclosed in the specification in paragraph [0140] and Figure 12, data-sequence reproducing unit 61.

To expedite prosecution Applicants will state on the record that:

The encrypted-data-packet-forming unit corresponds to the auxiliary-information-data formatting unit 17, shown in figure 5 and disclosed in paragraphs [0083]-[0085].

The data sequence reproducing unit corresponds to the data-sequence reproducing unit 61 shown in figure 12 and disclosed in paragraph [0140].

The data detecting unit corresponds to the packet-code-data detector 83 shown in Figure 13 and disclosed in paragraphs [0156]-[0158].

The data selecting unit corresponds to the data selector 86, shown in Figure 13 and disclosed in paragraph [0164].

Accordingly, withdrawal of the rejection under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph is requested.

CONCLUSION

Because Applicant maintains that all claims are allowable for at least the reasons presented hereinabove, in the interests of brevity, this response does not comment on each and every comment made by the Examiner in the Office Action. This should not be taken as acquiescence of the substance of those comments, and Applicant reserves the right to address such comments.

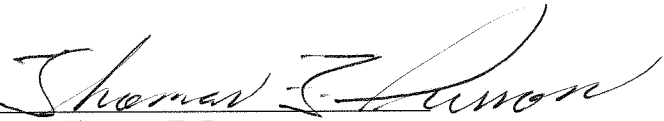
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In view of the foregoing remarks, all of the claims in this application are patentable and Applicant respectfully requests early passage to issue of the present application.

Respectfully submitted,

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